

Applicant : David B. Watson, et al.
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REMARKS

Claims 2-9, 12 -17, 27-31 remain pending. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 12-14, 27, 29 and 31 are rejected. Claims 4, 8 and 30 are objected to. Claims 15-17 are allowed. Claims 18-26 and 32-35 were previously withdrawn. Applicants cancel Claim 1 and cancel Claims 18-26 and 32-35. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Application in view of the remarks and amendments herein.

Objections

Claims 4, 8 and 30 were objected to but the Examiner indicated they would be allowable if placed in independent form. Applicants have placed Claims 4 and 8 in independent form incorporating the limitations of the independent and intervening dependent claims as requested by the Examiner. Claims 4 and 8 are now allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicants have canceled Claim 1 and incorporated its limitations into both Claims 4 and 8.

Applicants have amended Claim 2 to make it dependent from now independent Claim 8. Claim 2 is allowable as it includes the limitations of its independent Claim 8. Claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 depend from Claim 2 and are allowable since they contain the limitations of Claim 8 and Claim 2. Claim 9 has been amended to depend from now independent Claim 4 and is allowable as it includes the limitations of Claim 4.

Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitation of a “reciprocating type” gas expansion engine. The cited references disclose turbine type gas expansion engines and not “reciprocating type gas expansion engines” for driving an electric generator. Claims 13 and 14 are dependent on Claim 12 and include its limitations and therefore are allowable.

Claim 27 has been amended to include the limitation of a “reciprocating type” gas expansion engine. The cited references disclose turbine type gas expansion engines and not

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“reciprocating type gas expansion engines” for driving an electric generator Claims 29 and 30 are dependent on Claim 27 and incorporate its limitations and therefore are allowable. Claim 31 has been amended to be dependent on Claim 27 and therefore is allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note and appreciate the Examiner’s indication that Claims 15-17 are allowable.

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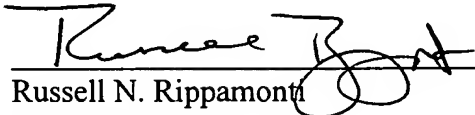
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is in condition for allowance, and request such a Notice. If the present Application is not allowed and/or if one or more of the rejections is maintained or made final, Applicants hereby request a telephone conference with the Examiner and further request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney to schedule a telephone conference.

No additional fees are believed to be due. Please apply any deficiencies or any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/26/07



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